

**DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 17, 2012**

Members Present: Carroll, Corsa, Harden, Keithley, Lank, Newstadt, Sarg, Thompson, and Weir

Members Excused: Goss, Evans, Lardizzone, Newman and Wasson

Staff Present: Davila and Peterson

Introduction of Guest(s): Linda Boone (Home of the Brave), Jack Tillmon (The Alliance of Disabled Veterans), Cheryl Doucette and Victor Luaces (Delaware Hospice), Angela Dorey (Chamber of Commerce) and Dennis Spivack (Candidate for State Insurance Commissioner)

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to our Nation's Flag.

Chairman opened the meeting by reporting that legislation that was presented to provide OIF/OEF veterans with a \$300 bonus for service was not introduced and will need to be resubmitted in January 2013. This subject prompted discussion.

Ms. Boone reported that the executive director is no longer with the Home of the Brave and she has resigned from the board so that she could take over as the interim executive director. She will hold this position for the next couple of months until the board can hire a replacement. She handed out a flyer with positions that need to be filled at the facility and provided an update for the Home of the Brave.

Mr. Tillmon provided a brief overview of his organization, answered questions and there was discussion.

Ms. Doucette (Delaware Hospice) spoke about the Riverwalk Freedom Festival in Milford and the Vet-to-Vet event and handed out flyers for these upcoming September events. Mr. Luaces and Ms. Dorey elaborated about the services they provided, extended an invitation for all to come and visit the facility and there was discussion.

Mr. Spivack provided a synopsis of his personnel history, justified himself as the best candidate for Insurance Commissioner and then answered questions and engaged in discussion.

Mr. Peterson provided an update for the Delaware Veterans Home and explained some of the difficulties being encountered with patient admittance, payment status and collections. He answered questions and there was discussion. He indicated they are scheduled for the facility recertification on August 7, 8 & 9.

**MOTION BY HARDEN TO ACCEPT JUNE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES,  
SECONDED BY LANK, MOTION CARRIED.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**NORTHERN CEMETERY**

Commissioner Harden reported on current construction and personnel changes and Mr. Davila elaborated on the re-alignment project.

## **SOUTHERN CEMETERY**

Mr. Davila reported the Family Advisory Committee meeting will be tomorrow at 3:00 PM.

## **LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS**

Commissioner Carroll reported that he spoke with representative Jaques and that he indicated the previous legislation spoken about would be at the top of the agenda in the next legislative session and also there would be action taken for the funding of the World War II memorial.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Commissioner Weir spoke about how the Commission can help the returning vets and there was discussion.

## **COMMEMORATIVE AFFAIRS**

Commissioner Lank stated the MOPH is responsible for the Veterans Day ceremony.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS**

Harden (WAVES) – She reported they were so happy with their visit to the Veterans Home that they have decided to buy a brick.

Lank (MOWW) – He spoke about sending kids to the Freedom foundation in Valley Forge and he announced their annual conference is in San Diego on July 30.

Newstadt – (JWV) – He reported the work at the museum is slowly progressing and wants to invite everyone to Delaware City Days next week.

Sarg (MOAA) – He provided a better explanation for what the Community Blueprint is and provided a handout. Mr. Davila spoke about projected changes planned for the Commission web site.

Weir (AMVETS) – He reported that he has requested an updated list of the officers from all the organizations in the state.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Sarg spoke about the 2012 Veterans Stand Down scheduled in October.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Commissioner Lank announced General Broomall's retirement will be Aug 5 at the Air National Guard Base.

**ITEMS FOR THE GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE ORGANIZATION**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**                      **AUGUST 21, 2012 (10:00 AM)**

**LOCATION:**                                      **Robbins Bldg, 802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100  
Dover, DE**

**ADJOURNED**